



# Press Release

Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

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On: PROSPECTIVE UPLAND COTTON ACREAGE  
UP 9 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

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Austin . . . Texas producers intend to plant more acres of cotton, rice and soybeans in 2004. Acreage of corn, sorghum, peanuts, oats, sunflowers and dry beans are expected to decrease.

Based on results of a survey conducted the first two weeks of March by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, **Upland cotton** acreage is forecast at 6.1 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. Planting of Pima cotton is expected to total 16,000 acres, down 20 percent from 2003.

Growers intend to plant 1.75 million acres of **corn**, down 4 percent from last year. Rice acreage is expected to increase 6 percent from last year to 192,000 acres.

"This report is an early indication of producers' intentions to plant," cautioned State Director Robin Roark. "Actual planted acreage may vary depending on weather, production costs and anticipated prices at harvest."

Producers intend to plant 2.8 million acres of **sorghum** during 2004, down 12 percent from a year ago.

Prospective **soybean** acreage, at 270,000 acres, is up 35 percent from last year, and acreage intentions for **sunflowers**, at 50,000 acres, is down 15 percent from last year.

Texas **winter wheat** planted, at 6.1 million acres, is down 8 percent from a year ago and 2 percent less than the January estimate.

Planted acreage for **peanuts** is forecast at 250,000 acres, down 9 percent from 2003.

Texas harvested acreage for **all hay** is estimated at 5.3 million acres, up 1 percent from last year.

United States Upland cotton producers intend to plant 14.2 million acres, up 7 percent from last year; 76 percent of these acres are expected to be planted to biotechnology varieties. Prospective corn acreage, at 79.0 million acres, is up fractionally from 2003; 46 percent of the acreage may be planted to biotechnology varieties. Sorghum acreage is expected to decrease 9 percent to 8.6 million acres.

Rice acreage is forecast at 3.26 million acres, up 8 percent from last year. Soybean planting intentions are 75.4 million acres, up 3 percent from last year; 86 percent of the acreage may be planted to biotechnology varieties.

Winter wheat planted for the nation is estimated at 43.4 million acres, down 3 percent from the previous year's acreage.

TEXAS PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Crop	2002	2003	Indicated 2004 <sup>1</sup>	Percent of 2003
	<u>1,000 acres</u>		<u>Percent</u>	
Beans, dry edible . . . . .	37.5	50	27	54
Corn, all . . . . .	2,050	1,830	1,750	96
Cotton, American-Pima . . . . .	18.5	20	16	80
Cotton, Upland . . . . .	5,600	5,600	6,100	109
Hay, all, harvested . . . . .	5,450	5,240	5,300	101
Oats, planted . . . . .	750	625	600	96
Oats, harvested . . . . .	140	140	130	93
Peanuts . . . . .	315	275	250	91
Rice . . . . .	206	181	192	106
Sorghum, all . . . . .	3,200	3,200	2,800	88
Soybeans . . . . .	230	200	270	135
Sunflowers, all . . . . .	35	59	50	85
Sweetpotatoes . . . . .	2.8	3.4	3.2	94
Winter wheat . . . . .	6,400	6,600	6,100	92

<sup>1</sup> Intended acreage in 2004 as indicated by reports from farmers.